FACT SHEET

SUBJECT: Standard Procurement System (SPS)

1. Purpose: To provide current status of SPS Deployment and open issues.

2. Facts:

    a. Leadership Briefing. DCG and Chief of Staff were briefed on SPS implementation, 2/9/99. Beginning 2/22/99, AMS is under contract to provide full-time support to USACE for SPS implementation. DCG was emphatic in stressing that USACE will not commit to deployment milestones until we have a fully tested, accepted and working CEFMS/SPS interface. We will need to develop acceptance test procedures as well as a test location concept to validate the interface before SPS is fielded Corps-wide.   However, planning efforts will continue. DCG wants a monthly IPR on status (or sooner if an issue arises that needs his attention).

    b. Server Configuration. AMS has reanalyzed results of the previous USACE WINFRAME test and believes there can be a solution with a centralized server concept. More testing is needed to determine if a Microsoft terminal server concept will work. USACE is working with AMS on a test approach. This is potentially good news for USACE as well as the rest of the Army as it would be the most cost efficient approach for long term maintenance.

    c. WINDOWS Compatibility. V.4.1a of SPS WILL BE COMPATIBLE with WIN98. Should be released in early April.

    d. CEFMS. Interface requirements definition phase commenced 2/8. USACE representatives from the CEFMS CDA and Vicksburg and Louisville contracting offices are participating. The contract calls for a 15 March delivery to USACE for testing, with a 15 April acceptance date. AMS has expressed concern that the requirements may be incomplete and anticipates some schedule slippage. Won't know the full extent for another week or so.

    e. Data conversion. Previous MACOM efforts with data conversion have been less than satisfactory. Data call in process to estimate the potential magnitude of the USACE effort. Responses are due by 2/16. We are working with Army to ensure that some form of a data conversion tool will be available for us.

f. A&E/Construction Functionality. V.4.1 of the software contains A&E and construction functionality. However, the SF 1442 in this version is incorrect. We've elevated to the Army and it has been recognized by DOD PMO as a must correct. Army is hoping that the correction will be in the V.4.1a release, which is slated for mid-April. If not corrected in time, we'll probably get a one-time deviation to use the incorrect form until it is corrected in the software. Will require that we notify the entire vendor community about the change before we can use. More to follow on this.

g. Core Team. Funding for core team effort still not approved but is being staffed. SPS is designed to allow each MACOM maximum flexibility in tailoring the system to meet their own command's unique needs. As a result, the Corps must develop specific guides and system procedures for SPS, which govern USACE unique practices such as warrant, and approval levels, permissions etc. Core team members will assist in the development of these guides. Guide development is slated to begin Feb 22 and can commence even though the CEFMS interface has not been completed. AMS will have personnel available full time to work with core team members on these documents.

h. Site Surveys. Ongoing. Most of the sites are being coded "yellow" for readiness primarily because of the database server issue which is being addressed as discussed in item 2a. above. AMS only recently advised us that there are additional server requirements for interfaces/applications, which are also being annotated on the site surveys. The Army has turned over responsibility for equipment requirements to JCALS (located in Ft. Monmouth, NJ). JCALS is now the Army's materiel developer for SPS and will be acquiring our additional PCs and servers. They are receiving copies of the site surveys and based on deficiencies identified will adjust our requirements accordingly. We may only receive equipment based on what the site survey indicates and not based on what we identified to Army last year. We've been unable to discuss with JCALS to date but are working this issue.

i. RMS/UPASS Interfaces. AMS is preparing proposals for potential addition of these interfaces. Development is not to interfere with the development of the CEFMS interface or the subsequent deployment of SPS.

j. SAACONS. Software is Y2K compliant however some USACE activities have operating systems/hardware, which may not be. If deployment is delayed into FY00 a plan will be developed to ensure that we can continue to operate with SAACONS.

k. SPS Tiger team members met at Ft. Belvoir, VA 20-22 Jan. AMS provided an overview brief of the implementation process and tiger team members had an opportunity to identify key functionality issues that will need to be addressed in the core team deliberations. The AMS briefing along with the tiger team issues have been posted to the PARC Homepage.

l. We are only now getting a good picture of the extent of the issues that need to be resolved to ensure successful fielding of the SPS to USACE. Significant work remains to be done. This is a team effort with critical support being provided by many offices within the HQ and from each of the Division/Districts as well. Support is very much appreciated. We are trying to ensure a consistent flow of communication to all through periodic updates.

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